

# THE EVENING TIMES.

FRANK A. MUNSEY.

Nobody has yet claimed that it is possible to take a drink by telephone.

According to the cartoonists, Governor Shaw will supply the wild Western wool for the Cabinet.

Mr. Bryan's comments on the Roosevelt policy seem to be coming along on the installment plan.

The peroxide press seems to think that Senator Depew could hardly have got married without its assistance.

Bismarck once called the Monroe Doctrine a piece of impudence. So is a hornet; but they can both make an impression.

The new Postmaster General is said to favor cheaper letter postage. Persons in love will like this better than anybody else.

A substitute for quinine has been discovered; but many skeptical people will not believe it will cure anything but imitation chills.

A Kentucky inventor says the earth is a wireless telephone. Maybe that is why the wise ones keep their ears to the ground so persistently.

Kipling has gone to South Africa, and Richard Harding Davis has sailed for Chile, and now the inhabitants will really have to make things hum.

One reason for the Boers' attitude doubtless is that they cannot see any balance of power in South Africa in which they would not be squeezed flat.

Leslie Stephens suggests that perhaps Shakespeare wrote Bacon; and as both gentlemen are dead there seems to be nothing to do but argue it out.

Just before election the rural residents are the sterling yeomen of the Republic; the rest of the time they are apt to be yokels, jays, and hayseeds.

Remembering that Jerome was once known as "the Judge with an ax," numerous people in New York are carefully fitting life-preservers around their necks.

General Kitchener has announced his fear that the casualties in the latest engagement were heavy. There are times when it is most convenient not to know too much.

It has not taken long to demonstrate the fact that during President Roosevelt's term the White House will not be cluttered up with political schemes to any great extent.

If Emperor William contemplates starting the concert of the Powers in rag-time, he should consider what is liable to happen about two in the morning when the razors come out.

The Chinese Government is said to want an American adviser at \$15,000 a year. This is one of those jobs which a great many men will think they want very badly until they have tried it a day or two.

It is said that babies are supplanting lap-dogs as drawing-room pets in London. The influence of this fashion may be good for the drawing-rooms, but it is rather hard on the babies.

It is said that there is a key-collecting fad among society girls. They collect the keys of rooms which they have occupied at hotels. If a society of cracksmen were to do that, now, it would seem entirely different.

Seventy members of the London Academy have each painted a picture as a coronation present to King Edward. It is to be hoped that every member of every musical society will not insist on composing and playing for him a tune.

## Faults of Speech.

Somebody has written to a New York paper commenting on the frequency with which children educated, or supposed to be educated, in the public schools of that city, assault the English language with bad grammar, such as "I seen," and "he don't." It may be stated broadly that what is true of New York is true of pretty much every other American city, in this respect. The correspondent above referred to thinks it would be a good thing if the child were made to stand in the corner every time he committed such a solecism, and then he would remember the proper combination of the parts of speech.

There is sense in this proposition, and it is an undeniable fact that not half enough attention is paid, in the average school, to "English as she is spoke" by the pupils. The result is that even those who come from families where correct English is spoken, become slipshod either through association with the children of illiterates, or through the natural indolence of humanity, for correct speech is not to be acquired without some drill and care.

The trouble probably is that the teachers have altogether too much to do to pay much attention to anything which is not on the programme. It is not possible, when one must push a class of fifty through a certain course of study in a given time, to stop every member of that class every time a mistake in grammar is made, and inflict a penalty therefor. The consequence is that most people, even when they are fairly well educated, speak more or less incorrectly, and whatever purity of language may be theirs has been the result of self-discipline after they have arrived at years of discretion. In the ideal sys-

tem of education it would be the result of training given so early as scarcely to be remembered at all.

## Purify the Potomac Water.

One of the first and most important duties resting upon the municipal authorities is the preservation of public health. Real municipal power in the District of Columbia has been delegated to Congress. It follows that the law-making body is ultimately responsible for local conditions due to a lack of money for the installation of improvements.

Anyone who has been driven by thirst to the use of the unfiltered liquid which has been served through the Washington water mains for a long time past appreciates the crying need of purification.

Clay and sand have mixed with the water and settled in the service pipes in such quantities that it is problematical whether there will ever be improvement except through artificial means.

The great need of the District today is filtration. It is natural to suppose that dirty water contains germs as well as sand and that it is a menace to the health of the Capital. Filtration plans have been on foot here for some time, but without funds they will never be consummated.

Proposed retrenchment in the matter of District appropriations seems to put a quick stop on the project for purer water.

If the demands for better facilities in other directions are to be sacrificed to an apparently unreasonable spirit of economy, it is difficult to be optimistic on the prospect for filtration.

Modern devices will enable us to have Potomac water comparatively free from pulverized real estate and menacing germs.

With Congress the power to provide them and the responsibility for results that may follow if filtration facilities are refused.

## PERSONAL NOTES ABOUT WASHINGTON PEOPLE.

Mrs. William G. Boyd will not be at home on Thursdays in January, owing to the death of her brother.

Mrs. Redwood Vandergrift, 1525 Twenty-first street, has returned from a visit to Philadelphia. She will not be at home tomorrow, but will receive her friends January 14 and 23.

Mrs. William F. Holtzman and Miss Holtzman will be at home January 11 and 25.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Whitaker, of 529 Florida avenue northwest, entertained a party of young people, classmates of their daughter Helen, Friday evening. The evening was spent in games, music and dancing. Among those present were the Misses Annie Galloway, C. G. Root, A. Root, L. Keenell, Ethel Croxton, Julia Lay, Edith Whitaker and Messrs. E. J. Johnson, E. Ballinger, C. Koss, R. Croxton, H. Shipley, Wallace Whitaker and William Whitaker.

Mrs. William Bainbridge Hale has returned from Grassdale, Va., and will be at home with her daughter, Mrs. David W. Taylor, at the Navy Yard.

Mrs. E. D. Anderson of 2812 Fourteenth street, will be at home to her friends Fridays after January 1.

Miss Adelaide L. Lowel, of New York city, is visiting Miss Rose Bruckheimer, of 457 I street.

Mrs. Gertrude Salade, of 3415 Morgan avenue, has returned home from a visit to her friend, Miss Haddon, of Abbeville, S. C. Both young ladies visited the Charleston Exposition.

Mrs. Willoughby Spring Chesley will be at home January 11 and 25 at 1214 Twelfth street northwest.

Miss Jessie F. Crouse, of Freehold, N. J., is spending the holidays with Mrs. Edwin B. H. Tower.

Mrs. and Miss McCall, who have recently returned from Europe, are located at the Cairo.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jacob, of 615 P street, were at home to a number of callers Saturday from 3.30 in the afternoon to 10 p. m.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Loran announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Jessie Starr Emmert, to Mr. Harry Francis Worley, of Cincinnati.

Mrs. Ella W. Matchette, of Greenville, Ohio, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Turner, of Q street.

Mrs. Max Goldsmith, of New York city, is visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Goldsmith, of 221 K street, where she will be pleased to see her friends.

The Junior Bachelor Club gave a dinner at its club room Friday evening. Address were made by Mark A. Woodell, Emil R. Glass, Edward Zink, George Channing, and Charles Doran. Judge J. J. Hill, of this city, was elected an honorary member.

The Rosebud Club gave its first ball of the season at Odd Fellows' Hall Thursday night. Among those present were Misses Isabelle V. Greene, Carrie V. Shipley, Alice Fletcher, of Baltimore, Md.; Marie Eckstein, Geneva Walker, Iola Dickinson, Vashti Turley, Agnes Merrittweather, Nellie Merrittweather, Zulkha Dixon, Rosa Carter, Mamie Phillips, Ethel Bruce, Helen Conner, Gertrude Williams, and Messrs. William H. Claxton, William Almond, of Philadelphia, Chester H. Turley, Frank Nickens, Walter Walker, Pemberton, George Pease, William Coston, Charles Jones, Clymer Cox, John Wright, Anderson Lewis, George Richardson, Walter H. Grimshaw, and Charles Evans.

The Bohemians will observe the annual custom of New Year calling in their usual way. The club is composed of the following members: Newton Grey, Arthur Boswell, Frank Boswell, Clarence Bateman, Joseph Herman, Charles Rickert, Claud Gallagher, and George Byrne.

Miss Gertrude Rickesacker, of Canal Dover, Ohio, is the guest of Mrs. John Walton Steward, of Paterson, N. J., who is spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Philip N. Dell, of 119 B Street southeast.

Mrs. A. Hart and Mrs. William M. Bass will be at home Thursdays in January and February, 2005 Kalorama avenue, Washington Heights. Thursday, January 2, they will have with them Mrs. A. D. Frank and Mrs. Gilbert Hart, of Baltimore.

## ALONG THE SKIRMISH LINE.

"Do you believe in accepting the inevitable?" "I don't see what else there is to do except to let it accept me."

The difference between affection and affectionation is two letters and a whole dictionary full of epithets.

It is hard to convince some people that the decline of the stage is not due to the fact that it has declined their services.

"I feel," said the ambitious suitor, "that the fire of genius burns within my soul, and that you would be my inspiration, my support, my—"

"The tone and sort of it is," interrupted the matter-of-fact maiden, "you want me to be the bellows for the fire of genius, and I don't think I should like it."

"The motto of the rising American literary man is Excellence!" exclaimed the enthusiastic president of the literary club.

"Perhaps that is why we have so much stuffed literature," replied the cynical outsider.

It is a curious thing and not very flattering to mankind that when we want to praise a man's judgment and discretion and general ability we say he has horse sense.

"He laid his plans deep." "That explains it. He hadn't time to dig 'em up when they were needed."

"Gipin declares his paper is going to be the party organ." "And does he intend to be the monkey?"

The History of a Battle. At the other end of town: "What's the row?" "Boy (panting): "Big riot down on de South Side! Race war! Thousand people scrapin'!"

Ten squares from the conflict: "What's the trouble down there?" "Aw, the whole alley's out tryin' to clean up the neighborhood. More'n a hundred of 'em. Ambulances been there from the hospital."

In the next street: "Has there been a race war down here?" "How should I know? I believe I did hear some hollerin' awhile ago."

"What was the fight about?" "Carolina Jim got drunk on scrapped wild or white man, en de pettie done 'rested 'em bofe."

"I believe I have found out why Welsh rabbits wear a person such dreams." "Why?"

"It is probably full of Welsh dialect, and nobody could dream comfortably in that."

Virtue may be its own reward sometimes, but contentment generally is.

"What do you suppose is meant by the wisdom of the serpent?" "Keeping out from under foot when you ought to be stepped on."

"They say revenge is sweet." "Well, it ought to be, to take the taste out of one's mouth after all one has to go through to get it."

"How are you these days, Uncle Simon?" "Polly, polly, son. I ain't got not to say no pain, but I been feelin' so well I know I'm goin' ter be sick befo' long."

"Yes," said the Wall Street broker, "we are not entirely unitarian in our tastes in the street. For instance, yesterday several of us spent nearly the whole day discussing Lamb."

"You can talk all you've a mind to about romance," growled the man who can never keep anything to himself, "I've had enough of it."

"Why, what's the matter?" "Well, you know I have always judged people more or less by their voices. The other day I got a call on the telephone from somebody up in Connecticut Avenue, and the voice was sweet enough to make you dream of peaches and cream. It was a real sweet, coaxing kind of a voice. I looked the house up and found there was an unmarried girl living there with her father, a widower, and I got an introduction just on the strength of that voice."

"Well, she was forty years old, with a voice like a buzz-saw. The girl who had come to the telephone was the maid, and she was about the color of good chocolate."

A Plan for the Potato. (Brooklyn Eagle.) The potato is a vegetable of science. Let it be hoped that it is not to pass into history and be known merely to our descendants by petrified specimens from the backyard strata of our towns and by preserved jokes from our papers. It may be that, by allowing it to enjoy a deserved rest, it will take fresh interest in the world and let it be turned into a weed for awhile. Cease from manuring and watering and stimulating and forcing and let it enjoy its fallow for a bit; or, find new soils and climates for it. Confer it upon Luzon and Greenland. Then, maybe, our country will continue to enjoy the gastronomic delights which pertain to this vegetable.

Self-Reliance Better Than Pensions. (Haverhill Gazette.) If the American workman, in whatever position he may be, is inclined to lay up something in store for a rainy day, he is getting wages that will enable him to do so, there are plenty of opportunities without the creation of service pensions, and the assumption that interference of Government or of employers to compel him to take proper care of his earnings is necessary or wise is not creditable to the common sense or ability of the man.

The Shadow of Annexation. (Boston Transcript.) If the Cuban Republic has been so weakened by conspiracy and civil war, that its vitality shall be exhausted in the arrangement of a commercial treaty, we shall find our responsibility a very onerous condition, and one that may precipitate the question of annexation upon the people of the two countries in an aspect that will leave neither any liberty of choice.

Hafter Versus Precept. (Memphis Scimitar.) Another Philippine province is to be lost back under martial law, the native officials appointed by the Americans have been serving the insurgents, like others in similar circumstances. When will our authorities learn that the halter is more convincing than precept in dealing with the most treacherous of all races?

Setting a Good Example. (Philadelphia Record.) In the late controversy Argentina and Chile have both given proof of moderation and good sense. A diplomatic effort on the part of either would have made war inevitable over a question of boundary that was not worth the cost of a man, cheap as men are held to be in South America.

## LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

"There is little or no crime in stock in Washington," said a leading fur dealer. "I doubt if there is enough in stock in the whole country to make a coronation robe. The English demand has swept the market clear. There will be more crime at the coronation of King Edward than there has ever been seen at one place before in the history of the world. Up to coronation week it will be the most valuable fur in the world, and any that has actually been worn in a coronation robe will continue to be very valuable, but thereafter it will drop in price and decline in fashion till another coronation comes."

"When any article of limited supply and special demand for limited occasions has a run, it gets out of the general field and loses its place. Fashion crowns another favorite and exiles its former queen. Who wears beaver now? Even sealskin has lost its grip. It became too common, and now that it is becoming scarce the prices refuse to soar, because the public taste has passed on to other furs. The variety is endless. Blue, silver, and black, fox, marten and sable, sea otter, and Persian lamb have wide sale. But there are forty furs which have wide sale in Washington will never make a heavy demand for furs. It is too far South. But it wants to have the best of what is going. Furs will become cheaper in time, as it is being discovered that numerous fur-bearing animals can be bred in captivity at a huge profit."

"Good boots, good gloves, a good hat, and good neckwear, and a woman is well dressed, no matter how cheap her gown," is the maxim of a young Washington matron who makes the slenderest of incomes suffice. "These are the points which every woman should give most care. Broken-down heels will ruin the effect of a hundred dollar gown. Poor soles and frayed gloves are the height of untidiness. Neckwear can easily be kept in order. The hat is the most difficult problem. Few women ought ever to trust themselves to buy a hat alone. Take along someone with the right artistic temperament, a man preferably, who has the courage of his convictions. Reduce your choice down to three. Then take your worst enemy for a second visit of inspection and pick out the hat she says is a perfect fright on you. By this means you not only get a hat which suits your style but your enemy will go home and have a sick headache."

F Street, between Tenth and Fifteenth, from 3 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon, is the most characteristically American thoroughfare in the world. Broadway is overwhelmingly typical of New York; metropolitan, self-contained and self-sufficient. Walnut Street is Philadelphia; and Chestnut Street is Chicago. F Street is national, typical and harmonious. Between the hours mentioned it is youthful and beautiful. There is no single Washington type of the beautiful woman. There are a hundred types, and the intermediate blendings of them all. They come from every State, all beautiful. New England girls, Scotch girls, West-coast girls with ideas, Southern girls with opinions. They are inches taller than their grandmothers were and pounds heavier. Yes, and their feet are a size longer and wider than fifty years ago. The shoe dealers deny it publicly, but admit it privately.

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## A SHIP TRUST FORMING.

Purpose of Organization Is Strengthening of Lake Rates.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Lumbermen and shippers next year will have to reckon with a vessel trust that is being organized for the strengthening of rates.

The combination of vessels is to be known as the Lumber Transit Company, and it will be capitalized at \$2,500,000. A charter is now being obtained under the laws of the State of Maine, by a committee which was appointed at a meeting in Detroit some weeks ago. Fifty or sixty ships will be the strength of the trust fleet at the outset.

The details of the project have all been carefully worked out. The boats to be purchased by the trust will be paid for partly in stock and partly in bonds. The valuations will depend largely upon the value of the Lake Transit Company, which is a subsidiary of the trust. The trust will be in a position to determine what pay vessel owners are to receive for their property.

A general meeting of all vessel owners interested in carrying lumber on the lakes will be held in Detroit next month, immediately after the meeting of the Lake Carriers' Association.

Each owner of tonnage carrying lumber will be invited to this conference, when the plans of the trust will be laid before them, and they will be asked to come into the organization.

## PINOVAR WILL RECOVER.

The Young Man Who Jumped From Brooklyn Bridge Doing Well.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—John Samuel Pinovar, the young man who leaped from Brooklyn Bridge yesterday, will probably survive the effects of his dive.

It was said at the Hudson Street Hospital this morning that the young man was doing well.

The purpose of Pinovar's daring leap is still a mystery. He had a strong interest in athletics and frequently declared he would like to do something startling from a high place.

Pinovar lives in Middletown, N. Y., and it was said last night that he was much cast down recently over the wedding of a girl in whom he was much interested.

His father is wealthy, having retired from the distilling business a year ago, and lives in Louisville, Ky.

Young Pinovar, who is only twenty-one, made the leap yesterday. He jumped from a trolley car, and leaped off the rail into the water. He was picked up by a passing tug and taken to the hospital.

## COUNTERFEITERS IN FLORIDA.

Government Officers Raid a Large Plant in the Hammocks.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Dec. 30.—Captain J. M. Wright, United States Secret Service agent, in company with Deputy United States Marshal, has made a successful raid on a family of alleged counterfeiters in Taylor county, who were manufacturing in large quantities of counterfeit money.

It is said that the counterfeiters' outfit is one of the largest that the Secret Service Department has found in a long time in the South. Estimated plant was found with the counterfeiters' tools for making anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000 of bogus money.

Taylor county is in the swamps of Florida, and the place where the money was being made was discovered by the Secret Service men in the middle of the swamp.

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